

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-2, 4-6, and 8-10 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The independent claims of the instant application disclose a fuel injector with a two part needle assembly where the first and second part are joined specifically with the use of a keeper that is fixed in a receptance of the first needle part, and a coupling body which has a recess that allows the first part of the needle to protrude and takes in the keeper in order to prevent radial movement for the first needle part relative to the second part. The coupling body is also joined to the second part of the needle. The amended limitations disclose the specifics of how the components fit together, specifically the recess of the coupling body has an inner diameter and the first needle part has an outer diameter that is smaller than the inner coupling body diameter so the needle can pass through the recess, and the keeper has an outer diameter that is larger than the inner diameter of the recess such that the keeper cannot pass through the recess.
3. Prior art of record such as U.S. PG-Pub 2001/0007338 to Popp discloses a fuel injector with a keeper that fits in a needle receptance and a coupling body that acts as a spring rest, however it is not joined to a second part of the needle. U.S. Patent #6,260,775 to Lambert discloses a fuel injector with similar components, however the components do not fit together like the amended limitations.
4. For the reasons listed above the independent claims 1, 5, and 9 are allowable, and because of such the independent claims dependent on independent claims 1, 5, and 9 are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the

Art Unit: 3752

issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JUSTIN JONAITIS whose telephone number is (571)270-5150. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thurs 6:30am - 5:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Len Tran can be reached on (571)272-1184. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JUSTIN JONAITIS/  
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11-1-2010  
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